

10/500367 #3

U.S. Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 JUN 2004

Docket No.: 22106-00062-US1  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Massimo Maura et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.:

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: COMPONENTS OF THERMOSTATIC  
UNITS AND LASER WELDING METHOD  
FOR PRODUCING THE COMPONENTS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A copy of only those references listed below is attached:

| For. Doc No. | Ctry | Patentee/Applicant | Publication Date |
|--------------|------|--------------------|------------------|
| 0 327 320 A  | EP   | Raycon Corp.       | August 9, 1989   |

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| Other Documents |
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| Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 2002, No. 11, Nov. 6, 2002 & JP 2002 197954 A (Alps Electric Co. Ltd.), July 12, 2002. |
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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22106-00062-US1. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: June 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                       |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | Not Yet Assigned      |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | Concurrently Herewith |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Massimo Maura         |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | N/A                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | Not Yet Assigned      |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 22106-00062-US1       |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       | AA                       | US-5,276,298                             | 01-04-1994                     | Solero et al                                       |   |
|                       | AB                       | US-4,661,677                             | 04-28-1987                     | La Rocca   |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                  |   |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY       |   |   |                |
|                          | BA                    | EP-0 327 320 A  | 08-09-1989       | Raycon Corp.                                    |   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \*\*CITE NO.: Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an double asterisk (\*\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*           | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 | CA                       | Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 2002, No. 11, Nov. 6, 2002 & JP 2002 197954 A (Alps Electric Co. Ltd.), July 12, 2002.  |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|